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**Borough of
Morecambe and Heysham**



REPORT

of

**The Medical Officer of
Health**

for the year ending

31st December, 1951

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Morecambe and Heysham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
of the Borough of Morecambe and Heysham.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the health services of the borough during 1951.

The form of the report and the matters dealt with are in accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health.

The report is that of a healthy community, but at the same time of a community that is in constant effort to achieve satisfactory standards of communal hygiene. With inadequate housing and inadequate sewerage the maintenance of a good health record is as much a matter of grace as of planned achievement.

Progress with both the new sewerage scheme and the building of houses is slow, but that is not the fault of the Local Authority; the rate of advance is governed by factors that the Local Authority does not control.

These factors, of finance and scarcity of materials on a national scale, have also disappointed the Council's hopes of improving their public cleansing and refuse disposal service. With this service as it is at present the town is kept clean and its freshness and cleanliness are often commented on by visitors; but the conditions under which the men work are bad and the offal plant is very inefficient.

In one section of the public health field we have no complaint, or almost none, of restraint and frustration. In the work of securing and maintaining high standards of food hygiene we find the Ministries concerned and their Regional officers understanding and helpful. It is true that there are licences and permits to be obtained and that the demand for proof of the necessity of every injunction or request makes much work, but if that work is properly done one generally gets what one needs. Our main worry arises from the huge difference between the Summer and Winter populations and the extent of the catering for them. The difficulty that this causes is referred to in the report.

An account is given of the work of the Mass Miniature Radiography unit which visited the borough in 1950. The visit was successful and interesting but unless the technique can be further developed it would seem that its usefulness, outside larger industrial areas, may be very restricted. For an adequate service the survey ought to be repeated regularly at intervals of a year or so and such a service could not rely on generous offers of temporary accommodation with assistance of staff.

In all the work of the department the support and appreciation of the Health Committee and of the Council have been an encouragement for which I thank them. I owe my thanks, also, to the staff of the department for their conscientious work and their willing help, and to my fellow officials of other departments for their ready assistance at all times.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. LYLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area in acres (not including foreshore)	3,665
Population—Preliminary Census, 1951	36,709
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-year 1951)	36,770
Number of inhabited houses Census, 1931	5,749
Number of inhabited houses, 1951 (according to rate books)	11,314
Rateable value	£319,700
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,307

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Total Live Births—428

	Male		Female
Legitimate	234	...	165
Illegitimate	15	...	14
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	249	...	179

Total Still births—22

Legitimate	12	...	10
Illegitimate	—	...	—

Deaths

Total Deaths—751

Male deaths ...	358	Female deaths ...	393
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Deaths of Infants under one year of age—13

Legitimate	6	...	7
Illegitimate	—	...	—
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	6	...	7

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age—12

Legitimate	5	...	7
Illegitimate	—	...	—
	<hr/>	...	<hr/>
Total	5	...	7

Puerperal Deaths—Nil

Deaths from Cancer (including Leukaemia)—105

Cancer of:

Stomach	15	...	11
Lung, bronchus	9	...	2
Breast	—	...	12
Uterus	—	...	1
Other sites	27	...	27
Leukaemia	—	...	1
	<hr/>	...	<hr/>
Total	51	...	54

Deaths from Certain Infective Diseases

	Male		Female
Influenza	8	...	24
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	...	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...	1
Measles	—	...	—
Whooping Cough	—	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	...	—
Pneumonia	7	...	12

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

Morecambe & Heysham M.B.	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality		
									Total		Neo-natal
	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1 000 pop'n.	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Year 1951	428	*11.6	751	*20.4	22	49	nil	nil	13	30	28
Year 1950	404	10.9	697	18.8	10	24	nil	nil	16	40	25
Year 1949	465	12.7	637	17.4	10	21	nil	nil	16	34	—
Year 1948	442	12.0	523	14.2	8	17	1	2.22	25	56	—
Year 1947	532	14.3	663	17.9	6	11	2	3.71	29	54	—
Year 1946	520	13.9	570	15.2	17	31	nil	nil	25	48	—
Average 5 years— 1946 — 1950	—	12.8	—	16.7	—	21	—	1.24	—	47	—

* Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.09) = 12.7 per 1,000.
(death-rate (comparability factor, 0.73) = 14.9 per 1,000.

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	7	4	11
2.	Tuberculosis, other	1	1	2
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	2	3
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	15	11	26
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	2	11
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	12	12
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	27	54
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16.	Diabetes	7	3	10
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	55	69	124
18.	Coronary disease, angina	53	33	86
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	9	6	15
20.	Other heart disease	64	89	153
21.	Other circulatory disease	11	15	26
22.	Influenza	8	24	32
23.	Pneumonia	7	12	19
24.	Bronchitis	29	41	70
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	6	2	8
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	—	4
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	—	4	4
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	3	1	4
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases	22	26	48
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
34.	All other accidents	3	3	6
35.	Suicide	3	3	6
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1951 COMPARED

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASES	RESPIRATORY DISEASES *
VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM	CANCER
VIOLENCE	TUBERCULOSIS—ALL FORMS
DISEASES OF KIDNEY AND PROSTATE	DIGESTIVE DISEASES.
INFECTIVE DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis)	ALL OTHER CAUSES

* Excluding tuberculosis : including influenza.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory and Hospital Facilities

Laboratory investigations are carried out by Dr. Rickards and his staff at the Pathology Laboratory in the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and samples taken in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are analysed by the Public Analyst, Dr. Walker of Preston. To both Dr. Rickards and Dr. Walker I am grateful for the guidance and help that they are always so willing to give.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47

No applications were made under this Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

The Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board and the School and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics by the County Council.

During 1951 there was at last opened a new Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic in Euston Road—the first adequate clinic for this service that this Borough has ever had. Three such clinics are necessary, and have been necessary for years past, to provide the services that mothers and infants require, but the prospect of our being provided with two more in adequate premises suitably placed seems to be faint.

For the Heysham area there may be the possibility of an arrangement with the St. John Ambulance Association, for whom new building is now in progress; and although the use as a clinic of a building designed to serve other purposes is generally a second-best contrivance it would certainly be an improvement on anything that Heysham has yet known.

Something better than the present West End clinic seems to be unobtainable and yet the necessity for something very much better is great. Persons in authority complain from time to time that parents will not take proper advantage of the favours offered them by a beneficent state and it is true enough that there are parents whom it is almost impossible to help. It is however also true that the education of parents, the stimulation of the indifferent and the enlightenment of the uninformed, is most unlikely to be achieved from premises that are makeshift, dark and uncomfortable.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

There were no changes during the year in the source of supply.

The following extensions of the service were made during the year:

Blackberry Hall Housing Site	188 yds. 4"
Trumacar Housing Site	48 yds. 4"
Branksome Drive Housing Site	28 yds. 4"
Bath Street (New Conveniences)	28 yds. 3"
Norland Drive	28 yds. 4"
Sugham Lane	216 yds. 6"

The purity of the water, checked by 68 bacteriological analyses and 52 chemical analyses, was satisfactory. There was continuous chlorination of all water leaving the two filter houses.

Typical chemical and bacteriological analyses of the water are shewn in the following tables:—

Chemical Examination

Numerical Results	All in parts per 100,000
Colour	Nil
Turbidity	Nil
Oxygen Absorbed (4 hrs. at 27°C)	0.045
Free and Saline Ammonia (as NH ₃)	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia (as NH ₃)	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (as NH ₃)	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen (as NH ₃) ... ..	.043
Chlorides (as Cl)	1.1
Hardness. Temporary	0.5
„ Permanent	4.0
„ Total	4.5
Reaction pH	8.0
Solids in Solution	7.
Action on Lead (24 hrs.)	Less than .01

BACTERIAL CONTENTS OF DRINKING WATER

Senders Identity of Samples	Dept. Ref.	Date Received	Bacterial Colonies per ml. Agar 37° C	COLIFORM BACILLI PER 100 M.L.			
				Total	Faecal B. Coli 44°	I.A.C. Group	Other Organisms
1	26,868 From Scotforth	19/12/51 Filters (Langthwaite Battery)	2	Nil Finished Water	—	—	—
2	26,869 From Scotforth	19/12/51 Filters (Blea Tarn Batteries)	3	Nil Finished Water	—	—	—
3	26,870 From Langthwaite	19/12/51 Filters (1/2 Batteries)	3	Nil Finished Water	—	—	—
4	26,871 From Langthwaite	19/12/51 Filters (3/4 Batteries)	3	Nil Finished Water	—	—	—

The following figures give the consumption of water for the past six years:—

Year	Morecambe	Heysham
1946	355,595,000 gallons	148,275,000 gallons
1947	385,362,000 „	154,387,000 „
1948	408,144,000 „	170,287,000 „
1949	454,545,000 „	164,464,000 „
1950	456,859,000 „	165,897,000 „
1951	441,043,000 „	180,712,000 „

Daily consumption of Morecambe and Heysham in 1951= 1,703,438 or 44 gallons per day per head of population.

As reported in previous years the quality of the water is excellent but the supply in Heysham is inadequate. In Heysham village, also, there is trouble and complaint caused by the frequent discolouration of the water; such discolouration does not make the water unsafe for drinking—there is no bacterial contamination; but it does make it an unsatisfactory domestic supply.

The causes of these two troubles are an inadequate storage capacity in Heysham and the age and condition of the old main. Both of these defects have been patiently borne; their correction is overdue.

CLEANSING OF DYKES

Although the very large number of dykes with their very slow rate of flow are a permanent nuisance which cannot be abolished, they are, on the whole, maintained in better condition than they used to be. The Corporation accepts responsibility for cleaning the main dykes and this work is regularly carried out. The state of the hundreds of subsidiary dykes depends on the owners and tenants of the properties through which they pass. Unfortunately one such owner or tenant can, by his carelessness, cause trouble to many others, but in general people behave reasonably.

The Borough Surveyor supplies me with the following note on the work done by his department.

“All the main watercourses within the Borough received individual attention, indeed more money has been expended on this kind of work than ever previously.

As a result of the development of the Corporation housing estates, particularly in the Heysham area, more work has been necessary on the main Heysham watercourses, involving reculverting some of the existing works to enable them to take the increased run-off.

Mosquito infection was not on a big scale but spraying was carried out in the vicinity of residential property as and when reports of this nuisance were received.”

NEW SEWERAGE SCHEME

The Resident Engineer has kindly provided the following summary of the work done during the year. It includes, inevitably, that note of caution about future progress that has accompanied the work ever since it began.

“At the Pumping Station at Schola Green the structural and building work of Contract No. 8 have been completed. Further work on this site will consist of the construction of an electricity transformer house, installation of pumping machinery, some of which has been delivered, and the erection of fences.

At Bare Lane Pumping Station structural and building work have been completed and outstanding work consists of the erection of the pumping machinery which is now in store at the Corporation depot, the construction of an entrance road and the erection of a boundary fence.

Operations commenced on the landward portion of the outfall sewer in May, and a length of approximately 400 yards of pipes has been laid, since that time, in Ellesmere Road, Osborne Grove and in the neighbourhood of Woodhill Farm.

On the West End promenade a working site for the construction of the seaward portion of the outfall sewer was taken over by the Contractors and work commenced on the construction of stores, offices and a workshop.

In September a start was made near Branksome Drive on the construction of new sewers for the Westgate and Torrisholme areas. Progress has been slow because of the difficult nature of the ground and a shortage of certain materials required for the work.

Although some improvement has been made in the rate of progress, it now appears that new restrictions on steel supplies may hamper the early completion of the works."

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

No. of houses on water carriage system	11,299	
„ „ fresh water closets	12,498	approx.
„ „ waste water closets	24	
„ „ middens	5	
„ „ closets attached to middens	5	
„ „ dry ashpits (excluding middens) ...	2	
„ „ movable ashbins	13,609	

SANITARY INSPECTIONS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Inspection:

Complaints received	574
Visits to complaints and nuisances	572
Nuisances discovered	578
Nuisances abated	566
Referred to other departments	156
Re-visits	796
Miscellaneous visits	136
Informal notices served	135
Abatement notices served	32
Legal proceedings	1

Legal Proceedings

On the 21st July proceedings were instituted against the assumed agent for the owner of a terrace dwelling house (owner living abroad) for non-compliance with the terms of an abatement notice served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It was submitted on behalf of the defendant that the notice was addressed to the wrong person and the bench upheld this submission. The bench were asked to state a case, pending a special appeal.

Summary of work done

Drain choked	262
(a large number of these drains are properly named "Sewers maintainable by the council at the owners' expense." They are classified here as drains to distinguish them from the council's sewers)	

Drain defective	17
Sewer choked (L.A.)	4
Gully choked	38
Gully top badly set	2
Gully (street) choked (L.A.)	5
W.C. choked	7
W.C. broken	2
W.W.C. defective and converted to W.C.	1
Urinal choked	12
Sanitary accommodation insufficient	1
Ventilating pipe to drain short	2
Flushing cistern defective	2
Cesspool overflowing	8
Inspection chamber (brickwork defective)	3
Waste pipe choked	3
Waste pipe broken	3
Waste pipe short	2
Lavatory basin cracked	2
R.W. downspout broken	10
R.W. downspout choked	2
Eavesgutter absent	2
Eavesgutter broken	10
Chimney breast damp	1
Chimney flue defective	3
Roof leaking	22
Roof (bay) leaking	4
Roof (annexe) leaking	8
Roof (W.C.) leaking	2
Walls, penetrating dampness	23
Walls, defective pointing (open joints)	2
Walls, rising dampness	7
Walls, rendering broken	4
Wall plaster perished and broken	9
Ceiling plaster perished	6
Windows, perished woodwork	7
Windows, no sashcords	3
Windows, pointing defective	4
Firegrate broken	1
Fireback defective	2
Floor wood perished	7
Floor infested (woodworm)	3
Floor kitchen, defective	1
Floor damp	1
Rooms dirty	5
Living room dilapidated following fire	1
Door badly hung	1

Door frame defective	1
W.C. apartment door absent	2
Smell in house	4
Outbuilding dilapidated	2
Water supply (poor)	2
Water pipe burst	2
Water pipe (hot) leaking causing dampness	1
Water in cellar	10
Water over site and under floor	4
Cooking range cracked	1
Ashpit (insanitary)	2
Animals, improper keeping	1
Refuse accumulation	1
Path broken	1
Yard surface defective	3
Wasps nest	2

Drainage

Visits	285
Re-visits	384
Drains tested	83
New drains tested	136
Informal notices	77
Formal notices	10

Supply of Dustbins

Visits	17
Re-visits	2
Informal notices served	9
Formal notices served	0

Stables and Piggeries

Visits	7
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Camping sites

There are 8 camping sites licensed by the Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 and all are kept under supervision. The addresses of the sites are as follows:

Vickers Holiday Camp, Westgate.
 Regent Camping Ground, Regent Road.
 Summerville Camping Ground, Acre Moss Lane.
 Meadowfield Camp, Middleton Road.
 Elms Occupation Lane, Bare.
 Broadgate Foot, Middleton Road.
 Torrisholme Hall Farm, Slyne Road.
 Ence Precision Co., Westgate.

The total permitted number of caravans on these sites is 400.

The powers granted by the Public Health Act for the control of camping sites have never, here or elsewhere, been adequate. They have been particularly inadequate during post-war years when the cruel shortage of houses has had results which emphasise the fact that there is no legal definition of what constitutes camping. Camping sites become partly sites for the caravans of holiday-makers and partly sites for the caravans of families living there “for the time being.” In theory these last will be housed eventually, but the event seems still to be too far away for calculation.

During 1951 use was made of the Town and Country Planning Act which, it seemed, gave more, and more clearly defined, control over the siting of caravans. It is still hoped that this control may develop, but the result so far has apparently been to double the number of licensed sites and make little difference to the rest.

Frequent visits were paid to the licensed sites during the season and all were being satisfactorily managed.

Visits	... ..	48
Re-visits	... ..	13
Visits to unlicensed sites	... ..	121

Legal Proceedings

Proceedings were instituted in the Magistrates Court against two owners of land for contraventions of the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to land used as a site for moveable dwellings without licence from the local authority. The cases were proved; a fine of £3 was imposed with costs in each case.

Swimming Baths

The municipally owned Super Swimming Stadium was the only one open during the year. It is a fine asset to the borough not only as a holiday attraction, but also as a means of healthy recreation and education for the resident youth. The efficiency of the filtration and chlorination plants is assured by frequent chemical examinations of the water. In addition to the chemical estimations 14 bacteriological analyses were made and all were very satisfactory.

Disinfestation

Number of verminous houses inspected	... ..	48
Number of verminous houses re-inspected	... ..	40
Number of verminous houses disinfested	... ..	35
Wasps nests destroyed	... ..	2

Offensive Trades

There are three premises in which offensive trades are conducted: in two of these the trade is tripe dressing and in the third it is gut scraping.

All were satisfactorily conducted.

Number of visits	3
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Tents, Vans and Sheds

3 inspections were made during the year. No legal action was necessary.

Keeping of Animals

Visits	12
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Rats and Mice Destruction

On May 31st, 1951, an Order in Council made under Section 23 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, made the provisions of that Act, with some modifications, applicable to shipping. The order came into force on October 1st, 1951.

Before this Order was made the only vessels subject to inspection for rodent infestation were foreign-going ships each of which must carry an International Deratization or Deratization Exemption Certificate. It was anomalous that so much time and money should be spent on keeping down the rodent population of premises on land and that nothing should be done in the same way on the thousands of vessels using the ports and harbours and often engaged in the transport and storage of food. All these vessels, of whatever size and class, calling at ports in Great Britain or operating within the limits of harbours, estuaries and inland waterways, are now subject to inspection to ensure that, as far as practicable, they are kept free from rats and mice.

Port Health Authorities are empowered by the Order to issue Rodent Control Certificates through the Port Medical Officer and these certificates are valid for 4 months. Each certificate contains a declaration that on the date of issue the vessel was, as far as practicable, free from rats and mice. If inspection shows the vessel not to be reasonably free then steps can be taken to make it so.

Although the obligation to keep a vessel free of rats and mice is placed by the Act on the owner, or on the person having custody or control of the vessel, Port Health Authorities are not permitted to charge a fee for the certificate. However, as with the destruction of rats and mice on land, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries will pay a grant to the Authority equal to one half of the net expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their duties under the Order.

Between the date when the Order came into force and the end of the year the following work was done:—

Number of visits by inspectors	10
Number of miscellaneous visits	2
Number of visits by rodent operators	17
Number of certificates issued	7

Rodent Control in Sewers

Maintenance treatments of sewer manholes were continued during the year in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture. Two treatments were carried out at intervals of six months and the number of manholes in each case was 31.

The results were as follows:—

First treatment

Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	9
Number of manholes showing poison bait take ...	8

Second treatment

Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	5
Number of manholes showing poison bait take	4

The results of the rest of the work done in 1951 are given in the two following tables, which are in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. As always the number of rats recorded as “Actual kill” seems small in

relation to the amount of work, but the term “actual kill” is a misuse of language. If the actual kill were known there would be no need of an “estimated kill.” The figures, in fact, are those of the bodies found and the actual number killed will have been much greater. The “estimated kill” is a number arrived at by the use of a formula: it is perhaps a little better—at any rate it sounds better—than a guess; but the only proof of the success of the work is that premises which have been harbouring rats and mice have been cleared of them.

TYPE OF PROPERTY

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2).	36	10,900	160	1,444 (Corrected)	12,540
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1951 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	(a) 10 (b) 22	115 44	2 115	21 83	148 264
III. Number of properties (under II.) found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	Major 4 Minor 17	8 151	9 108	9 95	30 371
IV. Number of properties (under II.) found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	—	49	—	119	168
V. Number of infested properties (under III. and IV.) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	8	188	45	192	433
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4 :— (1) Treatment. (2) Structural Works. (i.e. Proofing).	— —	— 35	— —	— 27	— 62

Total					
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4.	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings.					
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out.	—	19	—	—	—

RODENT CONTROL MEASURES FOR YEAR 1951

Type of Property	Notified by Occupier	Otherwise Discovered	No. infested by			No. of Properties Inspected	No. of Inspections Made	No. of Treatments Carried Out		Block Treatments of Property by Informal Arrangement		
			Rats		Mice			R	M	No. of Block,	Surface Asso'd Sewers	
			Major	Minor							No. of Separate Occupancies	No. of Manholes Treated
Local Authorities Properties	R 7	32	4	38	—	14	14	43	—	2	4	—
	M 6	—	—	—	6	4	5	—	6	1	3	—
Dwelling House	R 91	45	7	130	—	12	17	136	—	11	33	—
	M 42	1	—	—	52	25	26	—	50	—	—	—
Business Premises	R 17	64	11	93	—	46	73	81	—	8	17	—
	M 26	93	—	—	119	120	161	—	129	5	14	8
Agricultural Properties	R 2	115	9	108	—	55	93	120	—	—	—	—
	M —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
											Type	Visits
											Local Authorities	161
											Dwelling Houses	66
											Business Premises	229
											Agricultural Property	376
												920

HOUSING

(1) General Observations

Year after year the long queue of people without adequate homes, condemned to life in rooms, winds through the Housing Department and the utmost efforts of the Housing Committee and the Council to shorten it are unavailing.

At the beginning of 1951 there were 1675 applicants on the housing list: during the year 132 houses and flats were built: at the end of the year the list of applicants numbered 1850. Sisyphus was condemned eternally to push his stone up a hill, down which it rolled again as soon as he got to the top: but at least the stone did not grow heavier after each day's effort. The Housing Committee's task seems to grow heavier the harder they push.

This long line of the homeless is a line of unhappiness, anxiety, disillusion and ill-health and it has effects far beyond those seen immediately in the families concerned. Nationally we spend millions on increasing provision for the sick, and we ensure that this shall continue to be made necessary by unhealthy conditions of living: we spend millions on the education of children whose home conditions will defeat the endeavours of the best of teachers: we spend millions on the prevention of disease in conditions where the seeds of disease are offered a soil prepared for them: we spend millions on the attempted reclamation and reform of young delinquents while the environment from which they came remains to breed their successors.

Good housing would not abolish disease and ignorance and crime, but it would surely enormously diminish all of them and it is doubtful whether it has yet been accorded the importance that, even on economic grounds alone, it deserves.

While new houses are built too slowly, old property deteriorates. While housing policies fail to meet the demands of those who have never had separate homes, old houses which have been long unfit, but are still inhabited, cannot be pulled down. The year in which a Medical Officer of Health will be able to dismiss "Housing" in short space as a public health matter offering few difficulties lies still in the very far future.

(2) Housing Needs

At the end of the year there were 1850 applicants for Council houses: of these 1730 were living in rooms. Of the

1730 living in rooms 1048 were parents with children and the sizes of the families were as follows:—

Families of 3 (i.e. with 1 child)	662
Families of 4 (i.e. with 2 children)	303
Families of 5 (i.e. with 3 children)	57
Families of 6 or more	26

At the end of the previous year the number of applications from persons living in rooms and having one or more children was 987. At the end of 1951, therefore, we had on the waiting list 61 more families in rooms than there were at the end of 1950.

(3) Progress of Local Authority Schemes

During the year 112 houses and 20 flats were built in the borough, 38 of these houses having been built by persons or bodies other than the local authority.

The 94 families rehoused during 1951 in Council houses and flats comprised 358 persons. The figures are lower than those of 1950.

Several of the worst of the huts in Barrows Lane, Heysham, were demolished.

(4) Inspections

Housing Act, 1936

Houses inspected	12
Houses re-inspected	32
Rent books examined	3
Rent books not complying (S.4)	3
Informal notice served	3
Application for permitted number	3
Houses measured	3
Certificates issued	3

Public Health Act, 1936

Houses inspected	572
Houses re-inspected	796

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Inspection of Food Premises:

Visits:

Bakehouses	146
Restaurant kitchens	216
Food preparation premises	150
Fish friers	109
Food stores	17
Proposed food premises	386
School kitchen	6
Snack bars	187
Markets	4
Public houses	2
	<hr/>
	1223
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In, addition to the above, 266 visits have been made with contractors to food premises in connection with proposed work or work in progress and 341 visits have been made to proposed food premises in connection with structural alterations necessary to comply with the requirements of Section 13 Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and 92 miscellaneous visits in connection with “Change of User” under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

Notices:

Informal	28
Statutory	—

Defects:

Structural	20
Drainage	20
Tables and benches	5
Floors, walls and ceilings	20
Want of cleanliness	13
Want of re-decoration	20
Inadequate W.C. accommodation	8
Inadequate washing facilities	18
Inadequate ventilation	16
Inadequate artificial lighting	8

Inadequate hot water supply	16
Inadequate accommodation for refuse	1
	<hr/>
	165
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Registration of Premises:

	Register 1.1.51	Transfers 1951	New 1951	Register 31.12.51
1. Fish friers ...	29	5	3	32
2. Sausages, potted, pressed, pickled, preserved food	47	*2	2	48
3. Sausages, potted, pressed, pickled, preserved food (including fish frying)	1	—	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	77	6	5	81
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

* One registration now amended and included in column 1.

During the year the use of 1 bakehouse has been discontinued and it has been removed from the register and 1 new bakehouse has been added to it. There are 83 bakehouses on the register, 77 in use and 6 not in use.

The continued relaxation on the issue of Catering Licenses by the Ministry of Food and the application of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order, 1950, along with the control of building materials and licensing of building work, affect to a considerable degree the number of inspections that can be made on account of the detailed work now required by the various ministerial departments.

The report shows that, although the actual number of visits to food premises in the Borough is 194 less than in 1950, the number of visits with contractors in connection with proposed work, or work in progress, is increased by 50, visits to proposed food premises by 137 and visits in connection with "change of user" by 40.

This variation in the inspections is explained by the fact that work of major structural importance was completed in 13 more premises in 1951 than in 1950. Furthermore, it reflects

the competing demands on the time of inspectors. In a town of the character of Morecambe and Heysham really adequate supervision of all food premises and adequate control of alterations and reconstructions would occupy, perhaps, double the present staff of sanitary inspectors. As things are there has got to be a compromise between the supervision of new work and the routine inspection of established premises and a great deal of reliance has to be placed on the wisdom and sense of public responsibility of those engaged in the food trades. Fortunately such reliance has, in this Borough, generally been justified, but it is nevertheless true that, although the standards of food handling and of premises are certainly much higher than they used to be, yet it cannot be claimed that inspection is adequate.

A holiday resort is always faced with the difficulty that a health department staff which met the needs of the people from May till October would be an extravagant staff for the town to maintain during the rest of the year. At the present time the staff of sanitary inspectors is not a compromise between the needs of the Summer and the Winter populations: it is, as a concession to financial stringency, a staff just proper for the Winter population only.

The Department continues to enjoy the utmost co-operation of the food traders and the whole of the work has been carried through without recourse to statutory action.

Difficulties might be expected because of the block capital cost allocation of building licences by area; in some parts of the country food traders have had to wait for several years for building licences after submission of plans and the securing of Town Planning approval. We have never experienced this. Our relations with the licensing authority have been most friendly and helpful, chiefly because the Inspector's demands have always been reasonable and in strict accordance with statutory requirements and because care is taken, with the co-operation of contractors, to see that contractors' specifications always accord accurately with those demands before they are submitted to the Ministry of Works.

As well as acknowledging help from the food traders and the contractors it is due to the Food Control Committee to express thanks for their interest in the work and their very useful co-operation.

Structural alterations and reconstruction under plans approved have been completed at the following premises:—

Bakehouses	12
Restaurant kitchens, Snack bars	29
Food preparation premises	5
Fish friers	4
Food stores	5
	<hr/>
	55
	<hr/>

Food Sampling:

141 samples were purchased or taken during the year and analysed by the Public Analyst. 61 were formal samples of milk, 46 food, 15 ice-cream and 1 drug.

Milk

Tuberculin Tested ...	Genuine	11
T.T. (Pasteurised) ..	Genuine	7
Pasteurised	Genuine	21
Accredited	Genuine	1
Sterilised	Genuine	1
Undesignated	Genuine	11
Pasteurised	Genuine but slightly low in solids-not-fat	1
Tuberculin Tested ...	Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	1
Undesignated	Genuine but slightly low in solids-not-fat	1
Undesignated	Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	6

Food

Almonds, ground	1
Alnut cream	1
Anchovy fillets	1
Apple juice	1
Beer	1
Brawn	1
Butter	6
Butter, manufacturing	1
Butter, rum	1
Butter drops	1
Cheese, processed	1
Chicken, jellied	1

Chutney, fruit	1
Coffee	1
Cornflour	1
Cream	1
Cream, double	1
Cream, artificial	1
Cream, synthetic	3
(One consisted of an unlabelled sample of synthetic cream, whipped and sweetened, the fat content being almost entirely of vegetable origin. Sample not labelled with the particulars required by the Labelling of Food Order, 1950. The offence was pointed out to the manufacturer and the product thereafter was properly labelled).	
Crumb dressing	1
Cydersnap drink	1
Dumplings	1
Fish cakes	2
Cake flour, cocoanut	1
Fondant	1
Fruit pectin	1
Honey	1
Jam, apple and blackberry	1
Jelly, table	1
Lard	1
Margarine	3
Margarine (Kosher and Veg.)	1
Meat paste	1
Mincemeat	1
Olive oil	1
Pickle	1
Pineapple in syrup	1
Sauce	1
Sauce, tomato	1
Sausage, beef	2
Sausage, pork	2
Shortbread mix	1
Shrimps, potted	1
Squash, orange	1
Sugar	1
Tea	3
Vinegar	3

Ice-cream

Genuine	12
Low in total solids and fat	2
Low in milk-solids-not-fat	1

Drugs

Indigestion powder	1
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The Food Standards (Ice-cream) Order, 1951

This order came into operation on March 1st: it provides that ice-cream must contain at least 5% fat, 10% sugar and $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ milk solids other than fat, with special provisions for fruit ices and Parev (Kosher) ice. The Ministry of Food declare that these standards are regarded as interim standards only and that when ingredients become more plentiful they will be improved. While the standards were receiving consideration the trade argued that they should allow for a standard weight per gallon because of the wide variation in the volume of air incorporated in ice-cream and it may be that this question will be further examined when standards are reviewed.

It is perhaps unfortunate that the type of ice-cream known as dairy mix cannot be manufactured to comply with these standards and that no allowance is made for it. In the dairy mix all of the fat comes from milk—none of it, for example, from added margarine—and many people prefer it to any other ice-cream.

14 samples were examined by the Borough Analyst (Nos. 2—15 in the table on page 33), 11 were genuine; 1 was 0.8% deficient in total solids and the other 2 gave exceptionally poor fat contents being 3.4 and 3.3 %. The samples were informal and it was suggested by the Analyst that the vendors be warned and formal samples taken. The manufacturer/retailers were warned but repeat formal samples could not be taken because of the close of the season.

Bacteriological Examination:

280 samples of ice-cream were examined as follows:—

Methylene Blue Reductase Test (with provisional gradings):

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	242
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

In the tables that follow are given the results of bacteriological and chemical analyses.

Each year since 1947 a marked improvement in both the quality and the safety of ice-cream has been recorded and of 1951 it is possible to say without reservation that the figures are good. The inspector whose particular interest it has been to secure these results has reason to feel pleased with them.

The number of samples taken for bacteriological examination, 280, was sufficient to ensure that the results give a proper account of all the ice-cream manufactured and sold—the product of the small shop in fair proportion with that of the large national firm.

It should perhaps be added that because of the nature of the Methylene Blue Reductase Test and its extreme delicacy it is probably impossible to obtain 100% samples in grades 1 and 2 from any large number taken. From any manufacturer an occasional sample below these grades is not important: it would only be if a manufacturer's product fell thus on repeated samples that it would be considered unsatisfactory. Perhaps the grade 4 percentage,, which has fallen in the past 3 years from 21.1 to 11.9 to 3.8, might be further reduced.

Bacillus Coli in 0.1 c.c.

Absent	280
Present	nil

Type	No. of Samples	Provisional Gradings				B. Coli Absent in O.l.c.c.
		1	2	3	4	
Bulk	86	69	7	3	7	86
Pre-packed	167	158	3	3	3	167
Complete Cold Mix	15	15				15
Total	268	242	10	6	10	268

12 Samples were not reported as the test was spoiled.

Type	% Graded 1 or 2		
	1951	1950	1949
Bulk	88.3	76.0	63.6
Pre-packed	96.4	87.4	50.0
Complete cold mix	100.0	85.7	50.0

Comparative Figures:

Year	Grade 1 or 2 %	B. Coli Absent in O.l.cc. %
1947	40.8	64.8
1948	50.7	90.4
1949	60.0	97.8
1950	82.0	100.0
1951	90.3	100.0

The percentage of samples falling in grade 4 was 3.8 as compared with 11.9 per cent. in 1950 and 21.1% in 1949.

	PROVISIONAL GRADINGS				
	1	2	3	4	% 1 or 2
Local	94	8	5	9	86.2
"Imported"	148	2	1	1	98.6
TOTAL	242	10	6	10	90.3

Composition:

15 samples were analysed by the Public Analyst, 3 samples contravened the order of 1951 relating to standards.

(See also notes to Food and Drugs)

Sample No.	Fat %	Total Solids %
1	6.6	29.5
2	11.6	34.9
3	11.2	31.0
4	10.5	32.9
5	8.6	29.3
6	10.9	34.4
7	8.0	30.8
8	12.7	35.6
9	9.9	32.6
10	11.7	34.6
11	11.7	35.4
12	10.0	32.0
13	3.4	30.2
14	3.3	24.1
15	7.8	38.0
Average:—	9.19	32.35

Visits:

Dealers' premises	464
Manufacturers' premises	76
Storage premises	33
Proposed premises	17
Cinemas	23
Street traders	1
Sampling	317
Informal notices	5

Registered Premises

Manufacture storage and sale	5
Manufacture and storage	2
Manufacture and sale	11
Storage and sale	5
Storage	4
Sale	80
Sale of pre-packed (by agreements)	70
	<hr/>
	177
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During the year 9 premises ceased to be used for ice-cream purposes and the certificates of registration were withdrawn. The Council approved the transfers of 11 certificates, and 12 additional premises were registered giving a total of 177 premises, an increase of 12 over the previous year.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Meat:

Number of visits to slaughter-houses	665
Number of visits to butchers' shops	117
Animals inspected (including Heysham Harbour)	
Beasts (excluding cows)	1661
Cows	857
Calves	1130
Sheep and lambs	7875
	<hr/>
	11,523
	<hr/>

From the 9th April to the 14th July, all the slaughtering for Lancaster City and Lancaster Rural areas was carried out at the Morecambe slaughter-house. This was occasioned by the closing of Lancaster Abattoir for repairs and alterations. This additional work was carried out by the Morecambe inspector (Mr. Ashbrook) and necessitated frequent inspections out of normal hours.

Animals Inspected

	Abattoir	Casualties	Total
Beasts (excluding cows) ...	426	18	444
Cows	185	16	201
Calves	557	12	569
Sheep and lambs	1579	37	1616
	<hr/> 2747	<hr/> 83	<hr/> 2830

Meat Condemned (Morecambe including Heysham Harbour):

Cattle:

Tuberculosis:

Carcase and organs	13
Forequarters	5
Heads and tongues	188
Lungs (pairs)	391
Livers	93
Hearts	57
Skirts	106
Spleens	138
Stomachs	140
Udder (lbs.)	1773
Fat (lbs.)	534
Beef (lbs.)	42

Other diseases:

Carcase and organs (bruised)	4
Carcase and organs (fevered)	1
Carcase and organs (moribund)	4
Carcase and organs (inflammation and emaciation)	1
Carcase and organs (muscular degeneration)	1
Carcase and organs (emaciation)	3
Hindquarter (abscesses and bruising)	4
Forequarter (bruising)	2
Livers (cirrhosis)	1227
Livers, part (cirrhosis)	689
Udder (lbs.) (abscesses)	131
Tongues (actinomycosis)	4
Tongues (abscesses)	1
Hearts (C. Bovis)	8

Heads (C. Bovis)	23
Heads (abscesses)	2
Intestines (oesophagostomum radiatum)	74
Beef (abscesses) lbs.	26
Beef (bone taint) lbs.	213
Beef (bruised) lbs.	831
Beef fat (inflammation) lbs	17
Beef brisket and flanks (contamination) lbs.	279
Beef imported (bone taint) lbs.	194
Skirts ... 10	} Putrefaction due to improper packing
Spleens ... 10	
Lungs prs. 2	

Cysticercus Bovis

35 cases of C. Bovis were discovered (as compared with 48 in 1950 and 75 in 1949) and were classified at the laboratory as 31 live and 4 degenerated cysts. In addition, 4 cases were discovered in the Lancaster carcasses, all live cysts.

The distribution amongst the carcasses and the collection centres are shown below.

	Morecambe	Lancaster
Cases	35	4

Distribution:—

Heifers	8	1
Bullocks	14	2
Cows	9	1
Others	4	—

Centres:—

N. Ireland	11	—
Poulton	2	—
Penrith	2	1
Cark	1	—
Southwaite	1	—
Manchester	1	—
Forfar	1	—
Perth	2	—
Pilling	1	—
How Mill	1	—
Ulverston	1	—

Kendal	2	—
Aspatria	3	—
Longtown	1	—
Kirkby Stephen	—	1
Aberdeen	—	1
Cupar	—	1
Not known	5	—
	<hr/> 35	<hr/> 4

Calves :

Carcase and organs (inflammation)	7
Carcase and organs (tuberculosis)	1
Carcase and organs (peritonitis)	2
Carcase and organs (navel ill)	1
Carcase and organs (fever)	1
Carcase and organs (joint ill and ill bled) ...	3
Liver (abscesses)	1
Head abscesses	1
Pluck (abscesses)	1
Pluck (inflammation)	2

Sheep :

Carcase and organs (dropsy and emaciation)	3
Carcase and organs (moribund)	1
Carcase and organs (inflammation)	1
Carcase and organs (dropsy)	1
Carcase and organs (abscesses)	1
Carcase and organs (Lamb) (inflammation) ...	4
Carcase and organs (Lamb) (immature, inflammation and gangrenous pneumonia ..	3
Livers (flukes)	811
Intestines (sets) (O.R.)	126
Plucks (inflammation)	3
Head (flukes)	1
Pluck (flukes)	8
Pluck (encysted)	1
Side of mutton (inflammation)	1

Other:

Lamb trimmings lbs. (putrefaction)	64
Lamb breads lbs. (putrefaction)	22
Lamb heads lbs. (putrefaction)	690
Lamb heads (putrefaction due to faulty packing)	30
Lamb plucks	30
Pork lbs. (decomposition)	28

Carcases Inspected and Condemned Morecambe and Heysham

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1661	857	1130	7875	?
Number inspected	1661	857	1130	7875	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	14	14	14	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	2051	5	940	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	82.01	1.68	12.11	—	—
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses con- demned	13	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	431	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	17.63	0.09	—	—	—

Meat condemned (ex Lancaster):

Cattle:

Tuberculosis:

Carcase and organs	3
Carcase and organs (casualties)	10
Forequarters	2
Heads and tongues	4
Lungs (pairs)	118
Hearts	25
Spleens	35
Skirts	29
Livers	18
Stomachs	3
Udder (lbs.)	100

Other diseases:

Carcase and organs (inflammation and emaciation)	1
Carcase and organs (fevered)	1
Carcase and organs (inflammation-casualty)	1
Carcase and organs (enteritis and emaciation-casualty)	1
Carcase and organs (mastitis and emaciation-casualty)	1
Hindquarter (bruising and suppuration)	2
Livers (cirrhosis)	264
Livers part (cirrhosis)	38
Tongue (actinomycosis)	2
Kidney (abscesses)	1
Udder lbs. (abscesses)	64
Beef lbs. (bruised)	65
Head (C. Bovis) Calves	4
Carcase and organs (inflammation)	2
Carcase and organs (immature)	8
Carcase and organs (joint ill) casualty	2
Leg (arthritis)	1
Liver (abscesses)	1

Sheep:

Carcase and organs (inflammation)	2
Carcase and organs (moribund)	1
Carcase and organs (abscesses)	1

Carcase and organs (inflammation-casualty) ...	2
Carcases and organs (emaciation-casualty) ...	1
Carcase and organs (septicaemia-casualty) ...	1
Carcase and organs (immature-casualty) (Lamb)	1
Livers (flukes)	137
Plucks (flukes)	6
Heads (flukes)	3

Carcases Inspected and Condemned (ex Lancaster)

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	444	201	569	1616	?
Number inspected	444	201	569	1616	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole Carcases con- demned	5		12	9	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	311		2	137	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	49.14		2.46	15.22	—
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses con- demned	13		—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	141		—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	23.87		—	—	—

Unsound Food (other than carcase meat) Surrendered:

Meat:

Veal	lbs	172
Veal (tins)	lbs	42
Veal	tins	32
† Ham	lbs	126
Meat	tins	7
Jellied veal (tins)	lbs	43
Cooked ham (191 tins)	lbs	2371
† Bacon	lbs	99
Bacon	tins	20
Pork	lbs	357
Lamb	lbs	330
Stewed steak (tins)	lbs	2
Stewed steak	tins	1
Chopped pork (tins)	lbs	8
Chopped pork	tins	3
Beast livers	—	45
Pressed beef	lbs	257
Luncheon meat	lbs	125
Luncheon meat (tins)	lbs	125
Chopped ham (tins)	lbs	24
Chopped ham	tins	1
Pork butts (tins)	lbs	10
Cooked pork (tins)	lbs	4
Braised pork kidneys (tins)	lbs	4
Beef loaf	tin	1
Minced meat loaf (tins)	lbs	3
Minced meat loaf	tins	3
Ox tongue (tins)	lbs	10
Sheeps' tongue	tins	1
Corned beef (tins)	lbs	62
Sausage	lbs	143
Sausage	case	1
Sausage	tins	44
Pigs feet	lbs	772
Tripe	box	1
Tripe	lbs	12
Cowheels	—	4
Rabbit	tin	1
Ducks	cases	1
Fowl	cases	5
Fowl (cases)	lbs	316

Chickens and fowl	lbs	422
Chickens (tins)	lbs	109
Chicken	tins	1
Chicken	cases	1

Fish:

Fish	tins	48
Fish	stone	3
Fish	box	1
Salmon	tins	14
Haddock	stone	3
Haddock	box	1
Cod	case	1
Cod fillets	stone	2
Halibut	stone	2
Herrings	barrels	4
Herrings	tins	2
Herrings	stone	4
Sardines	tins	7
Kippers	box	1
Mackerel	box	2

Shellfish:

Crabs	barrels	5
Shrimps (rough)	lbs	56
Shrimps (picked)	quart	4

Fruit:

Apricot (tins)	lbs	50
Apricot	tins	4
Fruit	tins	223
Jam	tins	61
Jam	jars	4
Jam, apricot (tins)	lbs	18
Jam, pineapple	tin	1
Jam, quince (tins)	lbs	6
Jam, plum	tin	1
Cherries (tins)	lbs	5
Plums (tins)	lbs	68
Plums	tins	9
Pears (tins)	lbs	9
Pears	bottles	6
Pears	jars	1

Raspberries	tin	1
Grapes (tins)	lbs	5
Apples (tins)	lbs	222
Apples	tins	1
Fruit salad	jars	1
Grapefruit	tins	1
Peaches (tins)	lbs	4
Peaches	tins	3
Marmalade	tins	4
Marmalade	jars	7
Strawberries	tins	2
Lemon Cheese	jar	7

Vegetables:

Vegetables	tins	144
Tomatoes	tins	15
Tomatoes (tins)	lbs	29
Peas	tins	32
Beans	tins	6
Spaghetti	tins	1
Beetroot	jars	7
Onions	jars	1
Carrots (tins)	lbs	5
Tomato puree (tins)	lbs	3
Soup	tins	48
Soup, tomato	tins	2
Potatoes	cwt	32
Raisins	lbs	61

Cereals:

Bengers food	tins	4
Flour	lbs	5
Flour	packets	10
Shredded Wheat	packets	1
Groats	packets	10
Barley kernels	packets	10
Barley flakes	packets	2

Confectionery:

Slicing pie	lbs	55
Pastry mix	packets	9
Pie crust mix	packets	17
Madeira cakes		36

Bread	loaf	1
Scones		8
Cake	lb	1
Suet	lbs	3
Yeast	lbs	20
Synthetic cream	galls	3
Vita cup	packets	7
Chocolate malt spread	cartons	2
Yorkshire pudding mix	packets	14
Pudding	tins	2
Milk whipping compound	carton	1
Pate fois	tin	1
Lobster paste (tins)	lb	32

Provisions and Miscellaneous:

Milk	tins	172
† Margarine	lbs	60
† Butter	lbs	63
† Cheese	lbs	51
Cheese	packets	80
Dried milk powder	lbs	772
Tea	lbs	5
Coffee	tins	3
Cocoa	packets	5
Bovril	jars	2
Eggs		937
Delcafe	tin	1
Syrup	tin	1
Sauce	bottles	10
Mustard	jars	12
Pickles	jars	3
Jellies		9
Ketchup	bottle	1
Gravy browning	bottle	4
Salad cream	jars	43
Chocolate	lbs	9
Toffee, mint	lbs	14
Toffee, peppermint	lbs	14
Toffee, treacle	lbs	14

† Returned by vendor through Ministry of Food.

MILK SUPPLY

Registration:

	Total on 1.1.51	Transfers	Deletions	Additions	Total on 31.12.51
Distributors	78	6	1	5	91
Dairies	22	1	2	7	27

Licences:

Tuberculin Tested:

Dealers	10
Dealers Renewal	38
Supplementary	6

Pasteurised:

Pasteurised (H.T.S.T.)	1
Dealers	10
Dealers Renewal	35
Supplementary	3

Sterilised:

Dealers	2
Dealers Renewal	9
Supplementary	4

Visits and Inspections:

Distributors	167
Dairies	97
Processing plant	50
Farms	nil
Bottling establishments (excluding plants) ...	3
Milk bars	17
Sampling (Bacteriological)	237
Complaints	14

Bacteriological Examinations:

288 samples of milk were taken involving some 769 examinations. These were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory attached to the Lancaster Royal Infirmary and supervised by Dr. A. G. Rickards.

46 samples were of undesignated milk and the remaining 242 were designated. Of the undesignated milks 32 were sampled on arrival at the processing plant and of these 20 were of unsatisfactory keeping quality. All 108 samples taken after pasteurisation at the plant were satisfactory, except for one which had been slightly underpasteurised or possibly, contained a small amount of raw milk.

Almost 25 % of the samples of T.T. milk arriving at the plant for pasteurising or for bottling were unsatisfactory (this compares with almost 50 % in the previous year).

79 samples of milk of all classes were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all were reported as free.

The quality of the milk arriving at the processing plant for pasteurisation or bottling has improved from year to year since 1949: most of it is sent from farms outside the borough and unsatisfactory samples are reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Nowadays "unsatisfactory" means failure to pass the methylene blue test and shews a milk of poor keeping quality: it is the raw undesignated milk that is chiefly at fault.

A summary of the bacteriological findings in all the samples taken is given in the following table.

Reports of the chemical analyses of milk are given on page 28.

Designation	No. of Samples	B. Coli in 0.1 c.c.			Methylene Blue Test (Keeping Quality)			Phosphatase Test (Heat Treatment)			Tubercle Bacilli		Turbid. Test (Satisfactory)
		—	+	% Satisfactory	Pass	Fail	% Satisfactory	Pass	Fail	% Satisfactory	—	+	
Tuberculin Tested	122	121	1	99.2	92	30	75.4				30		
Accredited	3	2	1	66.6	2	1	66.6				1		
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	36	36		100.0	36		100.0	36		100.0	5		
Pasteurised	72	72		100.0	72		100.0	71	1	98.5	10		
Sterilised	9	9		100.0	5			3			9		9
Raw Undesignated	46	46		100.0	25	21	54.3				22		
Total	288	286	2	99.3	232	52	81.0	110	1	99.1	79		9

LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER, 1950

Visits	33
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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938

No. of Hawker's licences operating	39
No. of Hawker's premises licences	12
No. of visits	19

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits and Disinfection:

Visits of enquiry into notified cases	64
Re-visits	50
Miscellaneous visits	7
Visits re disinfection	131
Premises disinfected	68
Articles disinfected	1129
Rooms disinfected	113
Number of times steam disinfectors used	135

From January to March 1950 the Mass Radiography Unit of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board carried out a survey in the Borough. That is now quite a long time ago, but as the statement of the results of the survey was not issued until October, 1951 it could not be incorporated in an earlier annual report. In giving the statement now I should like to draw attention to the thanks expressed by the Medical Director to Mr. Holden of the Morecambe Bay Holiday Camp and to his staff for their generous help: that help was cheerfully given and in great variety of detail throughout the two months period of the survey amounted to much more than could be covered by the moderate charge made for the use of the premises.

The Medical Director's report is as follows:—

“At the end of the Lancaster Survey in 1948, several firms from the Morecambe area allowed their employees

to be examined in Lancaster, but although arrangements had been made to examine the Morecambe Corporation employees, these were cancelled after the first load as the workmen could not be spared during the busy holiday season. The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. W. F. Lyle, requested that the Unit visit Morecambe during the Winter months, and this was found convenient after the completion of the Preston and district survey in January, 1950.

It was not found possible to obtain premises suitable for the installation of the semi-static set, but the proprietor of the Morecambe Bay Holiday Camp, Mr. Holden, very kindly offered the use of their newly-built staff quarters at a rental of £2 per week including cleaning, although, as the building was not centrally heated, the Regional Board had to pay for heating by electricity, which was rather costly in the very cold weather of January to March. These premises, which could not have been utilised without the van, were situated in Heysham well out of the centre of the Morecambe and Heysham Municipal Borough, but they were situated on a frequent bus route. They also had the advantage of being near to most of the industrial establishments, and to overcome any reluctance on the part of the employers, the Morecambe Corporation agreed to pay for transport, the total cost being only slightly over £40. The Civil Service organisations, nationalised industries, and the Lancashire County Council Education Department paid for their own transport.

The staff quarters provided space for the Organising Secretary's Office, and for undressing, interviewing and re-dressing, but as they were rather small, it was found necessary to cut down the rate of working to 80 per hour. This arrangement worked very well, and several examinees expressed their appreciation of the additional privacy afforded for undressing by the several small rooms. The van was situated at the rear of the building, and an awning was erected by the holiday camp staffs from the side door of the van to the doorway. Accommodation for the Medical Director and for the General Office was adapted from the old saddle room and garages in the out-buildings. The holiday camp personnel went to a great deal of trouble to make these rooms comfortable and succeeded in doing so at a very small cost.

The electricity supply was only just adequate for the Unit's purposes owing to the distance from the sub-station and the consequent great voltage drop. The contacts were adjusted by the x-ray engineers, to compensate for this, but considerable trouble was experienced, which fortunately interfered only once with the flow of examinees. The North West Electricity Board were most co-operative.

The firm of Messrs. Trimpell Limited at Middleton, some three miles or more from Morecambe, employing nearly 2,000 people, found it impossible to allow their employees to attend at Heysham for examination, owing to the distance and to the continuous processes on which they were engaged. However, they provided excellent accommodation for the Unit, and although they were unable to keep the Unit supplied with 100 per hour, the survey was quite successful, 990 persons being examined. This response was only average despite the Unit being on the premises, but this can be accounted for by the difficulty experienced in getting the propaganda to the workers on the many shifts.

The employees of Messrs. Trimpell Limited examined are given in the following table, classified according to age:—

Age Group	Males	Female	Total
15—24 years	112	41	153
25—34 years	215	24	239
35—44 years	226	18	244
45—59 years	316	13	329
60 years and over	24	1	25
	<hr/> 893	<hr/> 97	<hr/> 990

All firms and organisations employing 20 or more persons were circularised, and only 4 firms, representing approximately

A total of 4,959 were x-rayed during the survey, as will 400 employees, failed to co-operate.

be seen from the following statement:—

	Males	Females	Total
Number of employees x-rayed in Morecambe, Heysham and District	2,423	892	3,315
Schoolchildren (14 years and over)	238	200	438
General Public	440	766	1,206
	<hr/> 3,101	<hr/> 1,858	<hr/> 4,959

Classified according to age:—

Age Group	Males	Female	Total
Under 15 years ...	115	112	227
15—24 years	576	568	1,144
25—34 years	637	388	1,025
35—44 years	691	365	1,277
45—59 years	911	366	1,277
60 years and over	171	59	230
	<hr/> 3,101 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,858 <hr/>	<hr/> 4,959 <hr/>

The table below, which excludes the 1,206 of the general public who were examined, compares:—(a) the number of persons at the various establishments who were available for mass radiography, with (b) the number who actually attended at the Unit.

	Males	Females	Total
(a) Total Number of persons available for Mass Radiography	5,267	2,139	7,406
(b) Number of persons who were x-rayed	2,661	1,092	3,753
(c) Percentage of total numbers available	50.52%	51.05%	50.67%

From the foregoing table it will be observed that of the total number of persons available for examination 50.67% were x-rayed, this being an average response.

The response from the British Railways staff at Heysham Harbour was again very poor, as it had been during the Lancaster survey, although some improvement was obtained by the Organising Secretary giving four talks there during one day. One of the difficulties was that many of the employees of the railway would have had to attend in their own time. The only other difficulty was experienced with a section of the building industry, where the employers refused to pay the wages during the workers' absence, although they were otherwise willing to co-operate.

The Organising Secretary, Mr. J. H. Evans, addressed the local Trades Council as well as giving the usual talks in factories and offices. The only employers' association in the district, the Rotary Club, was unfortunately booked up for

speakers for many months, but the Chamber of Trade circularised all their members recommending them to co-operate. The mass radiography film was shown for a week in each of two of the principal cinemas, the "Palladium" and "Empire," and advertising was carried out in the Corporation buses throughout the survey. As the Unit was situated a considerable distance from the town centre, it was decided to invite the public to either write for an appointment, or call at the Health Office, and this proved very satisfactory. Leaflets, combining an application form, were distributed through the town libraries and many people found this preferable to writing their own letters of application. These leaflets were also left in the dressing rooms, and this proved the best method of distributing them. Public sessions which were advertised by the same method, and in the newspapers, were very well attended, despite the distance from town. Altogether 1,206 individuals submitted themselves for examination, and they originated as follows:

Attended at the 2 Public Sessions	330
Used Application Forms	329
Applied to Health Department	249
Applied by letter or personally at the Unit	298

An attempt was made to analyse how each individual heard of the Unit's presence in the district, and what method of propaganda had persuaded them to attend, but this was unsuccessful, as when interviewed, many people appeared unable to remember how they had first learned of the Unit's visit. From the above analysis it would appear that all four methods were equally effective.

An Official Opening was attended by the Mayor, members of the Town Council, Dr. Mannix, the Chairman of the Lancaster and Kendal Hospital Management Committee, Mr. Hindle, the Hospital Management Committee Secretary, and representatives of the local employers' and employees' organisation. Dr. F. C. S. Bradbury, the Regional Tuberculosis Adviser, also attended, and was the principal speaker. The two local newspapers gave considerable publicity to the Official Opening, including many photographs. The "Morecambe Guardian" gave the Unit several "write-ups," and whilst the "Morecambe Visitor" insisted on treating the Unit strictly as a news item, it reported at some length.

The Unit's laundry work was done very efficiently by the Lancaster and Kendal Hospital Management Committee and no charge was made.

The doubtful nature of many of the chest conditions found necessitates a period of observation to establish a definite diagnosis, with a resulting “time-lag” between the end of a survey and the publication of the findings.

After the initial miniature x-ray, 330 persons were recalled for a large film, 11 persons for clinical examinations, 133 persons for interview by the Medical Director, and 9 persons for screening. Of these, 93 were referred to the Chest Clinic, and 25 to their own Doctor. Of the 4,959 persons examined, 4,464 were classified as normal, and the remaining 495 consisted of persons with tuberculous abnormalities, or other conditions of the chest.

The findings in respect of the examinees with the evidence of tuberculosis are:—

	Number	Per 1,000 Examinees
Active Respiratory Tuberculosis	7	1.4
Inactive Respiratory Tuberculosis	247	49.8

As will be seen from the foregoing statement, 7 cases of active tuberculosis were discovered, equal to a rate of 1.4 per thousand examined. Of these, 4 were recommended for sanatorium treatment or observation, one was already on the clinic register, and two removed or were lost sight of. From the public health standpoint, the chief function of mass radiography is the discovery of the infectious cases. In this survey 4 cases demonstrated a positive sputum, equal to a rate of .8 per thousand examined. For inactive tuberculosis, 247 cases were discovered, equal to a rate of 49.8 per thousand examined. Of these one was already on the clinic register as a quiescent case, 9 were given advice by the Medical Director of the Unit and referred to their own Doctor, 13 removed or were lost sight of, 6 are continuing under observation at the dispensary, and 218 were regarded as healed tuberculosis and no action was required.

Although the primary object of a mass radiography survey is the discovery of tuberculosis, it is only natural that during the routine examination of a large number of people, other abnormal chest conditions will be discovered. In this survey non-tuberculous abnormalities were found in 240 instances, but in the majority of these no action was considered necessary; a few of them, however, were referred either to the chest clinic or to their own Doctor for investigation or treatment, and were as follows:—

Abnormalities of bony thorax and lungs	6
Chronic Bronchitis and Emphysema	4
Broncho-pneumonia (non-tuberculous)	1
Bronchiectasis	8
Pulmonary Fibrosis (non-tuberculous)	5
Pneumokoniosis	1
Pleural Thickening	2
Pleural and interlobar effusion (non-tuberculous) ...	1
Cardio-vascular lesions—congenital	2
Cardio-vascular lesions—acquired	2
Miscellaneous, consisting of:—	
Collapse of Right Middle Lobe	1
Diaphragmatic Hernia	1
Rib Abscess	1
Collapse of Right Lower Lobe	1
Calcified Lower Lobe of Thyroid	1
	—
Total	39
	—

Schoolchildren aged 14 years and over were included in the survey, and those x-rayed consisted of males 238, females 200, total 438. Of these scholars, abnormalities were found in 27 cases. There were no cases of active respiratory tuberculosis found amongst these scholars. 13 cases of inactive tuberculosis were discovered, and these were regarded as healed tuberculosis, and no action was required.

Among the schoolchildren non-tuberculous abnormalities found were as follows:—

Abnormalities of bony thorax and lungs	9
Broncho-pneumonia	1
Bronchiectasis	1
Cardio-vascular lesions	2
Collapse of Right Middle Lobe	1
	—
Total	14
	—

I should also like to record appreciation of the consideration and co-operation extended to the Unit by all concerned during this Survey.”

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (other than TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1951.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AGE PERIODS — YEARS.														Total Cases	Total Deaths	Cases moved to hospita.	Deaths in hospital
	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Age un- k'wn								
Smallpox																		
Scarlet Fever		4	8	18	5	2	3							40		29		
Diphtheria (including membranous croup).																		
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)								2						2		1		
Paratyphoid Fever						1	1							2				
Measles (excluding rubella)	10	100	173	191	11	4	3	3						495		7		
Whooping Cough	8	21	46	26				1						102		6		
Acute Pneumonia (primary and influenzal)				2	1	4	4	13	6					30	3		1	
Puerperal Pyrexia																		
Meningococcal Infection		1				1								2		2		
Acute Poliomyelitis					1		1							1		1		
Acute Encephalitis		1			1	1	1							3	1	3		
Dysentery						1								1		1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum														1				
Erysipelas						1	1	6	3					11		3		
Malaria (contracted in England and Wales, or Abroad)																		
Food Poisoning	1													1		1		
Any other disease																		
TOTALS	20	127	227	237	19	15	14	25	9					693	4	56	1	

The main infectious diseases in 1951 were measles with 495 cases notified, and whooping cough with 102 cases. The incidence of the other notifiable diseases was low.

Once again there was no case of diphtheria in the Borough and there has not now been a case since 1946. The disappearance for over 5 years of this scourge of childhood and terror of parents has been a major achievement of preventive medicine and it becomes reasonable to hope that, like earlier plagues, it may remain permanently controlled. It is essential to remember always that it is merely controlled, not abolished, that it is being kept at bay and has not been eliminated; carelessness, a relaxation of the controls, would allow it to strike again.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised by the Medical Officer of Health is given in the table that follows. As has been previously pointed out, these figures are no indication of the total number of children in the borough who have been immunised; many parents have their children immunised by their own private practitioner and of this number we have no accurate records for 1951.

Children up to the age of 7 years are given A.P.T.; for children over that age T.A.F. is used.

The parents of all children immunised by the Medical Officer of Health are reminded at intervals of 4—5 years of the desirability of renewing the protection given. When school-entrants who have been immunised by their own doctors are found at routine inspections not to have been re-immunised, their parents are advised to take the children back to their doctors.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year.							
AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION.							
0 -	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	Total under 5 years	5 -	10 -
63	77	6	4	4	154	19	1
							Total aged 5-14 years 20

Number of children who were given a reinforcement injection. (i.e. subsequent to complete course).			
AGE GROUP.			
0 -	5 -	10 -	Total 0 - 14 years inclusive
146	218	150	514

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality During 1951

AGE PERIODS		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Years.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -		1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
2 -		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -		2	-	3	-	-	-	1	-
10 -		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -		2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
20 -		2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-
25 -		2	1	-	-	1	3	-	-
35 -		5	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
45 -		4	2	-	-	2	1	-	-
55 -		-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-
65 -		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
75 and upwards		-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals		19	11	5	3	8	5	1	2
		30		8		13		3	

THIRTEEN YEARS' TABLES OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary Tuberculosis:

Year.	Cases Notified.		Deaths	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	16	9	5
1940	17	15	6	4
1941	27	19	13	3
1942	20	7	12	3
1943	25	10	12	1
1944	24	15	10	6
1945	19	13	8	5
1946	26	16	6	4
1947	24	12	15	7
1948	31	10	16	6
1949	17	14	16	1
1950	19	20	6	7
1951	22	11	8	5
Totals	278	178	137	57

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis:—

Year.	Cases Notified.		Deaths.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	3	1	—
1940	6	3	1	1
1941	6	4	1	—
1942	5	8	—	3
1943	4	6	3	2
1944	7	6	4	2
1945	7	6	1	2
1946	6	4	2	2
1947	9	8	3	4
1948	5	8	—	—
1949	3	4	—	—
1950	—	5	—	1
1951	5	3	1	2
Totals	70	68	17	19

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment of patients suffering from venereal disease is given at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

The figures in the following table were kindly supplied by Dr. J. F. Mackay. They shew an increase of 12 cases of gonorrhœa, and a total increase of 29 patients, over the figures of the previous year.

	Non-Venereal Conditions	Gonorrhœa	Syphilis	Total Cases
Males	29	10	2	41
Females	5	4	4	13
Totals	34	14	6	54

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The general administrative arrangements, were unchanged and the usual work was satisfactorily carried out.

There were 234 vessels from foreign ports of which 207 were oil tankers, boarded and inspected.

There were no cases of infectious disease landed from any vessel.

Number of visits to Heysham	171
* Number of beasts examined	62
* Number of cows examined	47
* Number of sheep examined	3
Number of visits to Slaughter house	26

* Also included in figures on Page 34.

I Parrot was destroyed under the Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations, 1930.

1. Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during 1951.

TABLE A.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels reported as having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector		
FOREIGN :						
Steamers	234	787,437	-	207	-	-
*Motor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL—Foreign	234	787,437	-	207	-	-
COASTWISE :						
Steamers	1125	1,016,583	-	-	-	-
*Motor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1125	1,016,583	-	-	-	-
TOTAL—Foreign and Coastwise	1359	1,804,023	-	207	-	-

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

2. Character of Trade of Port.

TABLE B.

(a) Passenger Traffic During 1951

No. of Passengers ...	Saloon	3rd Class	Transmigrants
Inwards	53,575	99,563	—
Outwards	61,353	87,457	—

176,625 passengers were carried outwards in 1950 and 148,810 in 1951, a decrease of 27,815. Inward traffic showed a similar decrease, 177,359 in 1950 and 153,143 in 1951, a decrease of 24,216.

There is no passenger traffic with foreign ports.

(b) Cargo Traffic during 1951.

Imports:

	Total Imports Tons
Ex Belfast (Coastwise)	75546
Ex Londonderry Coastwise)	13303
Oil ex Tankers (Foreign)	1763684

The cargoes ex Northern Ireland consist chiefly of Cottons, Linen, Bacon, Eggs, Tobacco and sundry merchandise.

Exports:

	Goods Cargo	Bunker Coal	Total Exports
	Tons	Tons	Tons
To Belfast (Coastwise)	143342	45357	188699
To Londonderry (Coastwise)	12322	—	12322

The cargoes to Northern Ireland consist chiefly of all classes of raw materials, Boots and Shoes, Agricultural Implements, Machinery, Motor Vehicles, Tractors and sundry merchandise.

Oil	1131467	—	1131467
(Coastwise)			

Livestock Exports:

	Horses	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Others
To Belfast	18	6	77	21	10

Imports:

From Belfast ...	4031	41488	34218	546	87
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MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Nil return—not a port approved for the landing of aliens.

3. Water Supply

Water is obtained from the town supply for the port and for shipping. No water vessels are employed; vessels taking in water from stand-pipes alongside.

4. Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945

1. Arrangements for dealing with Declaration of Health.
This is usually received by the Customs Officer and handed later to the Sanitary Authority.
2. Boarding of vessels on arrival.
By Customs Officer and by Sanitary Inspector.
3. Notification to the Authority of inward vessels requiring special attention.
Customs Officer notifies Medical Officer of Health and Health Department, by telephone.
4. Mooring stations designated under Article 10.
 - (a) Inner Mooring—for cases of smallpox and typhus (Easterly end of North Side).
 - (b) Outer Mooring—for cases of cholera, yellow fever and plague (at Lune Deeps).
5. Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.
All ordinary notifiable infectious diseases other than those specified under 4 above.

6. Experience of working Article 16.
No experience.
7. Arrangements for:—
 - (a) Premises and waiting rooms for medical examination.
No special premises have been provided. There is no foreign passenger traffic. Members of the crew would be examined on board.
 - (b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.
A steam disinfector is provided for bedding and clothing. Appliances and materials are available for the disinfecting of ships and this would be carried out by the Health Department staff.
 - (c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons. No special premises.
 - (d) Hospital accommodation.
An infectious disease hospital at Lancaster is available for all cases except smallpox. For smallpox cases the Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.
 - (e) Ambulance transport.
A special motor ambulance is available with attendants.
 - (f) Supervision of contacts.
Contacts requiring to be kept under surveillance would be kept on board or accommodated at hospital.
8. Arrangements for bacteriological or pathological examination of rats and other materials.
Submitted to pathologists ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the Pathologist attached to the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster.
10. Venereal diseases.
No special arrangement for sailors. There is a clinic at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.
11. Arrangements for interment of dead.
In cemeteries provided by the Sanitary Authority.

TABLE C.

Cases of infectious sickness landed from vessels ... Nil

TABLE D.

Cases of infectious sickness occurring on vessels during
the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival ... Nil

5. Measures against Rodents.

No special measures have been necessary, the port being remarkably free from rats. Practically all traffic except for oil was from Northern Ireland, and the cargo is only on board a few hours and is transported direct by rail. The Harbour Authority employ their own rat-catcher.

TABLES E. and F.

Rats destroyed on vessels and in docks ... Nil

TABLES G. and H.

Deratisation and exemption certificates issued ... Nil

6. Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.

TABLE J.

Classification of Nuisances

Number inspected during the year ... 103
Defects ... Nil

7. Food Inspection.

Periodical visits are made for the purpose of the Imported Food Regulations. Visits are also made for the purpose of examining carcasses of animals slaughtered on board or after detention on landing.

In connection with the operation of the regulations my thanks are due to the inspectors of H.M. Customs for their courtesy and ready assistance at all times.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	40	44	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	112	217	17	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	2	—	—
TOTAL	155	263	18	—

66

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	7	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	6	8	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	—	5
(c) Not separate for sexes... ..	1	1	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	22	24	—	7

No. of outworkers making wearing apparel 2

SHOPS ACT, 1950

In the Autumn of 1950 the new Shops Act came into force and in 1951 the full and detailed survey of all the shops required by it was completed and the occupiers employing staff were issued with the prescribed forms, notices, records, etc. Occupiers have been fully informed of how the provisions of the Act affect them in their respective businesses. The verbal information given by the Shops Inspector was supplemented by the distribution of pamphlets to which reference could easily be made by anyone in doubt about any of the main provisions of the Act.

Some difficulty was experienced in enforcing Section 47 of the Act (relating to Sunday trading in toys, fancy goods, etc.) so far as the Sundays between Whit Sunday and the last Sunday in June were concerned; quite a number of shopkeepers took advantage of the fine weather and opened their shops in contravention of this Section. All these shopkeepers were visited and advised to close their shops and so avoid being reported to the Health Committee. The Shops Inspector's advice was accepted by all except 5 of the offenders and against these 5 proceedings were taken which resulted in their appearance at the Morecambe Police Court on Friday, July 6th, 1951. Each was found guilty and the following penalties were imposed by the Court:—

Two shopkeepers—fined £10 and 10/- costs—(2nd offence).

One shopkeeper—fined £5 and 10/- costs—(2nd offence).

One shopkeeper—fined £5 on each of two charges—(2nd and 3rd offences).

One shopkeeper—fined £3 and 10/- costs—(1st offence).

Further contraventions were observed on the Sunday following the close of the 18 Sunday period, viz: 14th October, when 12 shopkeepers were warned and told to close their shops. The shops were closed, though unwillingly, resentment being expressed that they were not allowed to engage in Sunday trading for the full period of the illuminations. Observations were kept on the succeeding Sunday and no contraventions took place.

Particular attention was paid by the Shops Inspector to the hours of closing on week-days. At the commencement a little difficulty was experienced but, generally speaking, the

shopkeepers were willing to co-operate in complying with the provisions of the Act. After a few verbal warnings no contraventions were observed and no complaints were received from local shop organisations.

One complaint was received from a shopkeeper who alleged contravention of the Act by a vendor of television sets who allowed persons to stand inside his shop and view the programme after closing hours. The complaint was followed up and observations kept, but there was no evidence of any sales being made after closing hours. It was thought that dealers in television sets might be advised to close the door of their shops at the closing hour, but the legal advice given was that there was no provision in the Act to enforce the closing of a shop door and that so long as there was no sale made after hours no offence was committed.

The new Shops (Sunday Trading) Order No. 1, 1951, which gave the fried fish and chips traders the 18 Sundays for which they opted, has been received with satisfaction by the proprietors of these businesses and no contraventions have been observed or complaints received.

The cinemas and places of public entertainments have continued to work under the Shops Act and the prescribed notices and records have been examined and found to be in order.

The working hours, washing and toilet facilities etc. of shop assistants have been passed under review and are found to be generally satisfactory.

In conclusion I would say that the decision of the Council just over two years ago to appoint a full-time Shops Inspector has been amply justified by the results of his work and that the Inspector has been successful in securing, in what are sometimes difficult circumstances, the amicable co-operation of the great majority of shopkeepers.

The work done in connection with general duties is given in the following table:—

Visits to shop premises	637
Inspections	134
Re-visits to shop premises	122
Verbal warnings	62

Informal notices served re absence of, and improper keeping of, records	104
Informal notices served re absence of suitable and sufficient washing facilities	3
Informal notices served re absence of suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences	2
Visits to places of public entertainment—Fun Palaces (Young Persons Employment Act)	10
Total visits made	903

PUBLIC CLEANSING

My thanks are due to the Cleansing Superintendent for an account of the work of the cleansing services.

The decree of the Government further to curtail capital expenditure has frustrated our schemes to modernise the department's depot and offal plant. These severe restrictions are no doubt necessary, but even so it is doubtful if the gain in finances is justified by the loss in public hygiene. This applies particularly to the offal plant, where the machines are so overloaded that it is not possible to deal efficiently with the obnoxious gases which are given off during the processing periods. Every effort will, however, be made to obtain priority for these schemes.

During the year seven new vehicles for the refuse collection service were delivered and are now in use. Their larger capacities will be most helpful when dealing with the extraordinary amount of light, bulky Summer refuse which is peculiar to a seaside town. In the Winter these vehicles are garaged in the covered section of the Corporation car park in Heysham Road, but between Whitsunside and October this shelter will not be available for them and they will have to be kept in the open air. This is bad treatment for these new and very costly machines and has to be set off against anything gained by postponing the building of the new depot garage.

It is expected that the Salt Ayre Marsh tip will be ready to take refuse some time in 1952. This scheme is behind schedule but it has been found possible to continue tipping at White Lund.

Towards the end of 1951 an incentive bonus scheme for the men engaged on salvage collection was introduced and its success can be seen in the comparison of the salvage figures with those of the previous year. The figures of salvage sales compare as follows:—

Paper	223 tons in 1950	368 tons in 1951
Textiles	5 tons in 1950	34 tons in 1951
Non-ferrous metals	1 cwt. in 1950	47 cwt. in 1951

The total income from salvage was £7,604 and this is a record for the department. It is unlikely ever to be surpassed as there are indications of a fall in salvage prices.

The average sickness and absence rate was markedly better than in the previous year: it was 5.575% the maximum being 15.4% in January and the minimum 2.1% in May. Considering the nature of the work done by the department and the lack of proper facilities for drying clothes etc. this percentage of sickness is not unreasonably high.

House and Trade Refuse Collection:

	Loads	T.	C.	Q.
House and Trade refuse	7201	12309	10	2
Fish and other offal	533	220	6	—
Raw kitchen waste	259	75	3	2
	<hr/> 7993 <hr/>	<hr/> 12605 <hr/>	—	—

Refuse Disposal:

At controlled tip	6226	11867	9	—
At Trade Waste plant	792	295	9	2
At Salvage plant	975	442	1	2
	<hr/> 7993 <hr/>	<hr/> 12605 <hr/>	—	—

Trade Waste Plant Sales:

	T.	C.	Q.	lb.	£	s.	d.
Fish Manure	23	18	2	14	856	4	5
Shrimp Manure	11	9	—	—	261	7	6
Concentrated							
Kitchen Waste	47	18	—	—	324	10	1
Oyster Shell	11	16	—	—	23	12	—
Bones	4	3	—	—	21	14	7
	<hr/> 99 <hr/>	<hr/> 4 <hr/>	<hr/> 2 <hr/>	<hr/> 14 <hr/>	<hr/> 1487 <hr/>	<hr/> 8 <hr/>	<hr/> 7 <hr/>

Salvage Sales:

Waste paper	368	9	-	-	6229	16	1
Textiles	34	9	3	2	1021	5	-
Non-ferrous metals ...	2	6	3	25	233	2	5
Black scrap	38	9	-	-	94	17	3
Rubber	1	3	2	-	17	2	6
Miscellaneous	1	11	-	-	8	1	6
	446	9	-	27	7604	4	9

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES

These services are the administrative responsibility of the County Council, but the medical work in the schools and the minor ailments clinics is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health in lieu of an assistant County Medical Officer.

1107 children were medically examined in the schools at routine inspections, 584 shortly after their entry into school, 345 at the mid-period of their school life and 178 at a later age. At these inspections we had the attendance of 767 parents and attendance of a parent at the examination of the younger children is almost invariable.

In addition to the children seen in the schools, there were 3977 attendances of children at the School Clinics: of these 917 were attendances at special clinics and 3060 at the Minor Ailments Clinics.

The problem of obtaining hospital treatment for children with defects of the ear, nose and throat is still unsolved. The hospital authorities are aware of the problem and have tried to help, but they simply have not got the accommodation and have not yet been able to make it. There has been some improvement during the past 12 months.

For many of the children the new housing estates have done more than nurses or doctors could ever do and in the children can be seen the brightest return on the money spent.

I would again like to emphasise the particular care paid by our two dentists to the preservation of children's teeth. It is, of course, far better dentistry to arrest early caries and save the tooth rather than to take the short cut and extract it, or to overlook the early disease until extraction becomes unavoidable.

Comparison of our figures with those both of the whole school dental service of the County of Lancashire and with those of the National Health Service for the whole country underlines the amount of conservative dentistry that is practised in our clinics to the great benefit of the children.

In the County of Lancashire in 1950 (latest figures available) for each permanent tooth extracted 1.33 teeth were saved by conservative measures.

In Morecambe and Heysham, for every permanent tooth extracted in 1951 5.4 were saved (in 1950 the Morecambe and Heysham figure was 5.99).

In the National Health Service of the country as a whole, for every 100 teeth conserved in children of school age in 1950 (latest figures available) 65 were extracted.

In Morecambe and Heysham the comparable figure for extractions in 1951 was 18.5 (in 1950 it was 16.6).

These figures indicate not only sound treatment, but, also, careful routine inspection and, one should add, co-operation from the parents and their wisdom in accepting advice.

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year in Schools and in School Clinics

No. of Pupils examined		Periodic Inspections 1107		Special Inspections 934	
		Number of Defects		Number of Defects	
Disease or Defect		Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
Skin		1	—	71	—
Eyes	Vision	36	—	27	—
	Squint	6	—	2	—
	Other	—	—	56	—
Ears	Hearing	3	—	—	—
	Otitis Media	—	—	—	—
	Other	—	—	43	—
Nose or Throat		66	6	24	—
Speech		3	—	6	—
Cervical Glands		—	1	5	—
Heart and Circulation		—	1	—	—
Lungs		—	17	—	—
Develop- mental	Hernia	—	—	—	—
	Other	—	—	—	—
Orthopaedic	Posture	2	1	1	—
	Flat-foot	44	2	1	—
	Other	26	2	10	—
Nervous System	Epilepsy	—	—	—	—
	Other	—	—	—	—
Psycho- logical	Development	—	—	—	—
	Stability	—	—	—	—
Other		—	2	520	—
TOTAL		187	32	766	—

EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of Cases dealt with	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	56	-
Errors of refraction (including squint)	159	-
Total	215	-
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) prescribed	123	-
(b) obtained	123	-

Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat:

Received Operative Treatment	103
Received other forms of treatment	43
Total	146

Orthopædic and Postural Defects:

Number receiving treatment	138
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SUMMARY OF WORK OF SCHOOL NURSES

Number of visits paid to schools	99
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Cleanliness Inspections:—

Number of examinations of children in schools ...	7931
Number of individual pupils found to be infested ...	155

Home visiting:—

Number of visits paid to homes	199
Number of pupils seen at home visits	66
Number of interviews with parents at home	188

In reading the figures for uncleanness in the above table it is to be remembered that 155 individual children found to be unclean were not 155 different children. There are families that offend repeatedly and whose children keep re-appearing among the numbers.

Classification of the General Condition of Pupils
Inspected during the Year in the Periodic Age Groups

Age Groups (All Schools)	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	584	24	4.1	539	92.3	21	3.6
Second Age Group	345	46	13.3	286	83	13	3.7
Third Age Group	178	34	19.1	138	77.5	6	3.4
	1107	104	9.4	963	87.0	40	3.6

TREATMENT TABLES

Return of Defects known to have received treatment during the year, either at the Authority's Clinics or elsewhere.

Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanliness).

(a) Disease or Defect:	Number of Defects Treated or under Treatment during the Year.
Skin—	
Ringworm—Scalp	
(i) X-Ray Treatment	—
(ii) Other Treatment	—
Ringworm—Body	—
Scabies	—
Impetigo	1
Other Skin diseases	70
Minor Eye Diseases	56
Minor Ear Defects	43
Miscellaneous (e.g. minor injuries, bruises sores, chilblains, etc.)	520
	Total
	690

(b) Total number of Attendances at Authority's	
Minor Ailments Clinics	3060

Dental Inspection and Treatment

Two part-time dentists are employed and 156 sessions were occupied in inspection and treatment.

During the year 1,764 children were examined and the following treatments were given:—

Number of children receiving treatment	807
Number of Extractions	
(a) of temporary teeth	683
(b) of permanent teeth	146
Number of Fillings	
(a) of temporary teeth	Nil
(b) of permanent teeth	788
Number of other operations	1
Number of parents interviewed	850

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